

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 CPR-01 /095 W

----- 091669

R 070932Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3011

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1215

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, OVIP, TC, US

SUBJ: OTAIBA WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: ABU DHABI 1180; STATE 130769

1. OTAIBA WILL BE BACK FROM GABON OPEC MEETING SHORTLY AND WILL WISH TO CONFIRM DATES DEPT HAS PROPOSED FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON LATER THIS MONTH. I WOULD APPRECIATE EARLIEST POSSIBLE WORD FROM DEPT THAT WILL ENABLE ME TO GIVE HIM GO-AHEAD SIGNAL ON THIS BASIS.

2. EMBASSY ALSO APPRECIATES STATE REFTEL WHICH PROVIDED FULL AND VERY USEFUL EXPLANATION OF CURRENT PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH DISCUSSION OF LONG-TERM GAS ARRANGEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES AT TIME WHEN OVERALL US POLICY STILL UNDER REVIEW. FACTORS MILITATING AGAINST LNG IMPORTS DESCRIBED FIRST PARA STATE MESSAGE ARE CLEARLY SIGNIFICANT, BUT WE WOULD OBSERVE IN CONNECTION 1(B) AND 1(D) THAT THESE ARE NEGOTIABLE FACTORS AND THAT POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS MAY NOW BE WILLING TO MAKE OFFERS IN TERMS OF PRICE OF GAS, LENGTH OF CONTRACT, AND PERHAPS PRICE ADJUSTABILITY DURING LIFE OF CONTRACT THAT WOULD BE MORE ATTRACTIVE TO SONSUMER COUNTRIES. IN ANY CASE, BELIEVE OTAIBA WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING
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APPROPRIATE US OFFICIAL GO OVER THIS GROUND FULLY AND FRANKLY

WITH HIM DURING HIS VISIT. ALSO, WE ASSUME THAT WHILE FOR REASONS
EXPLAINED USG IS NOT ITSELF IN POSITION TO ENCOURAGE IMPORTED GAS
SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS AT THIS TIME, IT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF
OTAIBA GOT IN TOUCH WITH US FIRMS THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN HEAR-
ING WHAT OTAIBA HAS TO OFFER. CAN DEPT MAKE IT KNOWN TO FIRMS THAT
OTAIBA WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO THEM WHILE HE IS IN WASHINGTON?
STERNER

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Message Attributes

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06 JUL 2006

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